

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

J. M. Reed Store

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Bohemia Avenue, south east corner of First Street

CITY, TOWN

Chesapeake City

— VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Cecil

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT
☒ BUILDING(S)
☐ STRUCTURE
☐ SITE
☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC
☒ PRIVATE
☐ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS
☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED
☒ UNOCCUPIED
☐ WORK IN PROGRESS
ACCESSIBLE
☐ YES, RESTRICTED
☐ YES, UNRESTRICTED
☒ NO

PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE ☐ MUSEUM
☐ COMMERCIAL ☐ PARK
☐ EDUCATIONAL ☐ PRIVATE RESIDENCE
☐ ENTERTAINMENT ☐ RELIGIOUS
☐ GOVERNMENT ☐ SCIENTIFIC
☐ INDUSTRIAL ☐ TRANSPORTATION
☐ MILITARY ☒ OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

John H. Walter

Telephone #: (301) 885-5616

STREET & NUMBER

P.O. Box 131

CITY, TOWN

Chesapeake City

— VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21915

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, Cecil County Courthouse
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Liber #: WAS No. 111

Folio #: 396

STREET & NUMBER

Courthouse Building

CITY, TOWN

Elkton

STATE

Maryland 21921

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Cecil County Survey

DATE

1967-68

☐ FEDERAL ☒ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Maryland Historical Trust

CITY, TOWN

Annapolis

STATE

Maryland 21401

7 DESCRIPTION

C8-121

CONDITION

☐ EXCELLENT☐ GOOD☒ FAIR☐ DETERIORATED☐ RUINS☐ UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

☐ UNALTERED☒ ALTERED

CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE☐ MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Adjoining First Street to the north and facing Bohemia Avenue stands the two story frame Reed Store, established in 1861, as the sign reads on the porch facade. It is three bays long and three bays deep with a small pod on the south for an enclosed stair to the second story. The main roof forms a gable facade; a shed extends over the pod.

On the first story are two store windows extending from the face of the building about one foot. The glazed portion of the windows is now shuttered with original shutters. Beneath the window itself is a paneled area which may have been built since the window was constructed. Between the windows is a double glazed door. A porch, supported on four square champhered columns, extends across the entire facade, including the small stair door. The fascia of the porch bears the words in applied wood letters. J.M. REED, JR. - GENERAL MERCHANDISE - ESTABLISHED 1861 - . On the south side of the porch is a piece of plexiglass covering an early faintly painted "GROCERIES".

On the second story are three windows with 6/6 sash and a fourth in the stair pod. The roof is symmetrical over the three windows and it has cornice returns on its facade. In the gable is another 6/6 sash window. On the north side of the structure are three windows now covered with louvered shutters.

A leanto covered with pressed tin (imitation brick) is built on the east side of the structure. The granite foundation extends beneath the main body of the building only. The roof is covered with corrugated tin.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW				
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)		
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION				

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Architecturally, the J. M. Reed Store is the best example of commercial architecture of the mid-19th century existing in Chesapeake City. It retains many original features which are not found on other buildings of the period.

This has been an important commercial property since the earliest days of Chesapeake City. Kendall Cropper made arrangements to buy this property in 1832 but died before the deal was completed. His heirs carried out the agreement and transferred the title to Absalom Cropper, one of four sons. Absalom was a merchant and probably had a wharf and store building here. Other Cropper brothers were ship captains; William was also a merchant. The family apparently cooperated in their business ventures. Of the four daughters, one married Richard Bryan, a merchant, and one married James Schultz, a boat engineer. The occupations of Kendall Cropper's other two sons-in-law, Haradak C. Marshall, and John Luffre, are not known. The Cropper family business was apparently profitable. Captain Absalom Cropper advertised in the local papers that his ship was available for excursions to Port Deposit.

In the days when the settlement on Back Creek was called Bohemia Village, sailing craft from the south unloaded cargoes here to be hauled by wagon to Port Penn on the Delaware Bay. With the coming of the Canal, some goods were still transferred from ships too large to go through the shallow Canal. Warehouses like the Cropper's were much in demand, and merchants bought and sold the cargoes.

In 1869, Charles A. Bryan, probably a Cropper nephew, transferred a "storehouse and lot of land" to Alonza Boulden. This is still a larger piece of land than Reed's Store stands on. containing some 8100 square feet, Mr. Boulden transferred the property to John M. Reed in 1870, the builder of the present store building. At this point the lot contained only 2000 square feet.

Reed's Store had the best selection of dry goods in town, according to advertisements and also satisfied customers. The counters were piled high with merchandise shipped in from Baltimore and Philadelphia on the Erikson Line Steamboats. The customers using

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Micahel Bourne & Katherine Wein

May, 1976

ORGANIZATION

DATE

South Chesapeake City Historic District Commission

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

c/o Town Council of Chesapeake City

(301) 885-5298

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

Chesapeake City

Maryland 21915

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

#8 Continued

The store on the street level did not interfere with activities in the rooms upstairs.

For many years Mr. Frank Williams conducted a school on the second floor of Reed's Store. He was a highly respected teacher and went on to become a state senator. These quarters later became the office of Dr. Smithers, dentist.

Other activities, public meetings, etc., took place in the rooms over the store. It was in this building that the need for a fire company was recognized and the Chesapeake City Fire Company was organized in 1911. Until this time the only defense against fire was a bucket brigade or, with luck, help from the hoses of a steamer passing through the Canal.

The building is still in reasonably good condition and in use as a storehouse by the present owner.

Form 104-65
Rev. 3/84
RECEIVED

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

OMB Approved
No. 1024-0009
Expires 8/31/86

JUL 11 1986

HISTORIC PRESERVATION CERTIFICATION APPLICATION
PART 1 - EVALUATION OF SIGNIFICANCE

MARYLAND HISTORICAL
TRUST

NPS Office Use Only

Project Number:

Instructions: Read the instructions carefully before completing application. No certification will be made unless a completed application form has been received. Use typewriter or print clearly in black ink. If additional space is needed, use continuation sheets or attach blank sheets.

1. Name of property: Reese Store Building (J.M. REED STORE)

Address of property: 100 Bohemia Avenue

City: Chesapeake City County: Cecil State: MD Zip Code: 21915

Name of historic district: South Chesapeake City Historic District

☒ National Register district ☐ certified state or local district ☐ potential historic district

2. Check nature of request:

- ☒ certification that the building contributes to the significance of the above-named historic district for the purpose of rehabilitation.
☐ certification that the structure or building end, where appropriate, the land area on which such a structure or building is located contributes to the significance of the above-named historic district for a charitable contribution for conservation purposes.
☐ certification that the building does not contribute to the significance of the above-named district.
☐ preliminary determination for individual listing in the National Register.
☐ preliminary determination that a building located within a potential historic district contributes to the significance of the district.
☐ preliminary determination that a building outside the period or area of significance contributes to the significance of the district.

3. Authorized project contact:

Name: George W. Lutz, III/NEDCO Title: President

Street: 710 S. Main Street City: North East

State: Maryland Zip: 21901 Telephone Number (during day): 301-287-2255

4. Owner:

Name: Robert T. Foard T/A Back Creek Associates

Street: 100 Bohemia Avenue City: Chesapeake City

State: Maryland Zip: 21915 Telephone Number (during day): 301-885-5916

I hereby attest that the information I have provided is, to the best of my knowledge, correct, and that I own the above-named property.

Owner's Signature: R.T. Foard T/A Back Creek Assoc. Date: 5/25/86

Social Security Number or Taxpayer Identification Number: S.S. #215-56-1388

NPS Office Use Only

The National Park Service has reviewed the "Historic Preservation Certification Application - Part 1" for the above-named property and hereby determines that the property:

- ☐ contributes to the significance of the above-named district and is a "certified historic structure" for the purpose of rehabilitation.
☐ contributes to the significance of the above-named district and is a "certified historic structure" for a charitable contribution for conservation purposes in accordance with the Tax Treatment Extension Act of 1980.
☐ does not contribute to the significance of the above-named district.

Preliminary Determinations:

- ☐ appears to meet the National Register Criteria for Evaluation and will likely be listed in the National Register of Historic Places if nominated by the State Historic Preservation Officer according to the procedures set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.
☐ does not appear to meet the National Register Criteria for Evaluation and will likely not be listed in the National Register.
☐ appears to contribute to the significance of a potential historic district, which will likely be listed in the National Register of Historic Places if nominated by the State Historic Preservation Officer.
☐ appears to contribute to the significance of a registered historic district but is outside the period or area of significance as documented in the National Register nomination or district documentation on file with the NPS.
☐ does not appear to qualify as a certified historic structure.

Date

National Park Service Authorized Signature

National Park Service Office

Reese Store Buildi

HISTORIC PRESERVATION
CERTIFICATION APPLICATION

NPS Office Use Only

CE-121

Property Name

100 Bohemia Ave., Chesapeake City, MD 21915, PART 1

Project Number:

Property Address

Robert T. Foard T/A (S.S. #215-56-1388)

Owner Name Social Security or Taxpayer ID Number

5. Description of physical appearance: The Reese store building is within a registered historic district. It is a 2 story frame building sheathed with clapboard siding, hip roof of corrugated metal rectangular in shape built in 1861, with a 1 story later frame addition covered with tin sheets, probably built c1900. The facade of the building is typical of 19th century village stores with a 1 story porch covering the entry which is flanked by bay windows. The right hand side of the front has a door leading to a stairway to the second floor. The windows throughout are 6/6 DBL hung sash which are the original not withstanding the bay windows and a large twentieth double hung window located in the center of the rear addition. The interior of the building on the first floor has a wood floor of mryed woods (mostly pine), plaster over lattice walls and retains all of the original counters and wall shelves. An open stairway gives access to the cellar which has a dirt floor. The first floor has seen little change, except for the addition of a 60 amp electric service, lights, and a sink. The rear addition has a tin ceiling in deplorable condition. The second floor consisted of 2 rooms. The rear room was used as a masonic meeting place and had no interior partitions or outstanding architectural features. The front room served as a dentist office and again had no surviving historic fabric. The

Date of Construction: 1861 Source of Date: N.R. NOMINATION FORM (DISTRICT)

Date(s) of Alteration(s): c. 1900

Has building been moved? ☐ yes ☒ no. If so, when?

6. Statement of significance: The Reese Store building is located in the heart of South Chesapeake City's Historic District and is one of the few remaining commercial buildings intact. The building is located in a block which includes Franklin Hall, a 3 story brick masonic and stone building and the Reese Victorian House, which is a large Victorian Home. The store is of major significance, due to its location and contribution to the streetscape, its relatively pristine condition, its historical role as a store from 1861 to the mid twentieth century. It also served as a reporting and its uniqueness in retaining its individual historic and architectural integrity.

7. Photographs and maps.

Attach photographs and maps to application.

Continuation sheets attached: ☒ yes ☐ no

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
STATE REVIEW SHEET

CE-121

Historic Preservation Certification Application--Part I

(J.M. REED STORE)

party: REESE STORE BUILDING, 100 BOHEMIA AVE., CHESAPEAKE CITY, MARYLAND.

Historic District: SOUTH CHESAPEAKE CITY HISTORIC DISTRICT

7-11-86 date initial application received by State

7-30-86 date additional information

12-23-86 date complete information received by State

11-10-86 requested by State

date of this transmittal to NPS

inspection of property by State staff? ☒ no ☐ yes date: _____

☒ There is adequate documentation enclosed to evaluate the historic character and integrity of this property.

☐ There is insufficient documentation to evaluate the property adequately. The application is missing the following items: _____

Reasonable efforts, described below, have been made to obtain this information. Copies of the information requests are enclosed.

1

This property involves:

☐ Extensive loss of historic fabric

☐ Substantial alterations over time

☒ ~~Re-examination~~ determination of listing

☒ for district

☐ for individual property

☐ Obscured or covered elevation(s)

☐ Moved property

☐ State recommendation inconsistent with NR documentation

☐ Recommendation different than the applicant's request

Complete one section below as appropriate.

(1) ☒ The property ☒ contributes ☐ does not contribute to the historic significance of this district in:

☒ location ☒ design ☒ setting ☒ materials ☒ workmanship ☒ feeling and association
Property is mentioned in the NR documentation in Section 7, page CONT 2.

(2) ☐ For properties less than 50 years old:

☐ the historical merits of the district (the periods and areas of significance) are documented in the National Register nomination form or district documentation on file as less than 50 years old, justifying the certification of this property's contribution.

☐ the strong historical or architectural merit of this property as described in the National Register nomination form or district documentation on file justifies its certification as contributing.

☐ there is insufficient justification to consider this property contributing to the district on the basis of its individual architectural or historical merits or the significance of the district does not extend up to and including the latest 50 year period.

Briefly explain how Standard (3) applies to this property's individual merits or its significance in relationship to the significant qualities and characteristics of the district.

(3) For preliminary determinations:

A. The status of the nomination for the property/historic district:

☐ Nomination has already been submitted to State review board, and if reviewed by the board, nomination will be forwarded to the NPS within a reasonable period of time. (Draft nomination is enclosed.)

☐ Nomination was submitted to the NPS on _____.

☐ Nomination will be submitted to the State review board within twelve months.

☐ Nomination process likely will be completed within thirty months.

☐ Other; explain: _____

B. Evaluation of the property:

☐ Property ☐ is individually eligible and meets National Register Criteria for Evaluation

☐ Property is located within a potential registered district that meets National Register Criteria for Evaluation

☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D Exceptions:

(4) The property is located in a registered district, is outside the period(s) and/or area(s) of significance as documented in the NR nomination and:

☐ appears to contribute to the expanded significance of the district. Enclosed is the revised nomination documentation.

☐ does not appear to contribute to the period(s) and/or area(s) of significance of the district.

Complete sections below for all properties:

3

Description of district including the period(s) and area(s) of significance as described in the National Register documentation or documentation on file (except for preliminary determination of individual listing).

THE SOUTH CHESAPEAKE CITY HISTORIC DISTRICT IS BOUNDED ON THE NORTHEAST BY THE CHESAPEAKE AND DELAWARE CANAL AND ON THE SOUTHEAST BY A STREAM WHICH RUNS TO THE CANAL. THE EXISTING BUILDINGS OF ARCHITECTURAL INTEREST IN SOUTH CHESAPEAKE CITY REFLECT THE 19TH CENTURY APPEARANCE THAT EXISTED WHEN THE TOWN FLOURISHED AS A CENTER OF ACTIVITY ADJACENT TO AN IMPORTANT WATER ARTERY BETWEEN THE DELAWARE BAY AND THE CHESAPEAKE BAY. BUILDINGS FROM ALL PERIODS OF THE 19TH CENTURY DOMINATE THOSE FEW OF THE EARLY AND RECENT 20TH CENTURY. THE STRUCTURES OF INTEREST EXTEND FROM THE CANAL TO FOURTH STREET ALONG BOHEMIA, GEORGE, AND CHARLES STREETS. STYLE INCLUDE VERNACULAR VERSIONS OF FEDERAL, GREEK REVIVAL, AND ITALIANATE.

Period(s) of significance: FIFTEENTH Section 1, page 1.

Description of the property documenting current condition. THIS STRUCTURE IS 2 STORIES TALL, 4 BAYS WITH OF WOOD FRAME CONSTRUCTION, WITH CLAPBOARD SIDING AND A TIN ROOF. IT HAS A 1 STORY FRAME ADDITION AND A 1 STORY FRONT PORCH. THE FACADE IS A TYPICAL 19TH CENTURY VILLAGE STOREFRONT WITH OFFICES ABOVE. THE ENTRANCE TO THE UPSTAIRS IS TO THE RIGHT OF THE MAIN DOORS. THE FIRST FLOOR INTERIOR IS A TYPICAL 19TH CENTURY COMMERCIAL SPACE, REMAINING FEATURES INCLUDE ORIGINAL FLOORING, DOORS & TRIM, AND X MARKINGS. THIS SPACE RETAINS ALL THE ORIGINAL COUNTERS AND WALL SHELVES. THE SECOND FLOOR CONSISTED OF A MASONIC MEETING ROOM TO THE REAR, AND A DENTISTS OFFICE IN THE FRONT. ONLY WINDOW & FLOOR TRIM REMAIN.

Retains sufficient integrity. ☒ YES

Statement of significance of the property. THIS STRUCTURE IS LOCATED IN THE HEART OF THE HISTORIC DISTRICT AND IS ONE OF THE FEW REMAINING COMMERCIAL BUILDINGS INTACT. IT ALSO CONTRIBUTES THROUGH ITS LOCATION AND CONTRIBUTION TO THE STREETScape, ITS PRISTINE CONDITION AND ITS ROLE AS A STORE FROM THE MID 19TH TO 20TH CENTURY.

State Official Recommendation:

4

This application for the above-named property has been reviewed by MICHAEL DAY, a professionally qualified architect, architectural historian, or historian on my staff.

☒ The property is included within the boundaries of a registered historic district, contributes to the significance of the district, and is a "certified historic structure" for the purpose of rehabilitation.

☐ The property is included within the boundaries of a registered historic district, contributes to the significance of the district, and is a "certified historic structure" for a charitable contribution for conservation purposed in accordance with the Tax Treatment Extension Act of 1980.

☐ The property does not contribute to the significance of the above-named district.

☐ The property appears to meet the National Register Criteria for Evaluation and will likely be nominated.

☐ The property does not appear to meet the National Register Criteria for Evaluation and will not be nominated.

☐ The property appears to contribute to the significance of a:

☐ potential historic district which appears to meet the National Register Criteria For Evaluation and will likely be nominated.

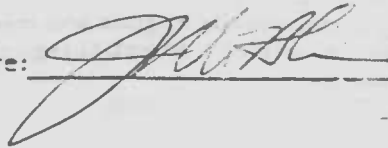
☐ registered historic district but is outside the period(s) and area(s) of significance as documented in the National Register nomination or district documentation on file with the NPS. Revised nomination or district documentation is enclosed.

☐ The property should be denied a preliminary determination that it could qualify as a certified historic structure.

☐ Insufficient documentation has been provided to evaluate the structure.

Detailed NPS review recommended ☐ Precedent setting case ☐ Forwarded without recommendation ☐

Date: 2-9-87

State Official Signature: 

CONTINUATION SHEET

OMB Approved
No. 1024-0009
Expires 8/31/86

Reese Store Building

Historic Preservation
Certification Application

NPS Office Use Only

City Name

100 J Bohemia Ave., Chesapeake City, MD 21915

Project Number:

Property Address

Robert T. Foard T/A (S.S. #215-56-1388)

Owner Name/Social Security or Taxpayer ID Number

This sheet: ☒ continues Part 1 ☐ continues Part 2 ☐ amends Project.

NPS Project Number:

5. Continued

current roof covers an earlier wood shingle roof. The building was originally heated by pot belly coal stoves and later by a coal fired floor furnace.

Owner's Signature

Date

NPS Office Use Only

☐ The National Park Service has determined that these project amendments meet the Secretary of the Interior's "Standards for Rehabilitation."

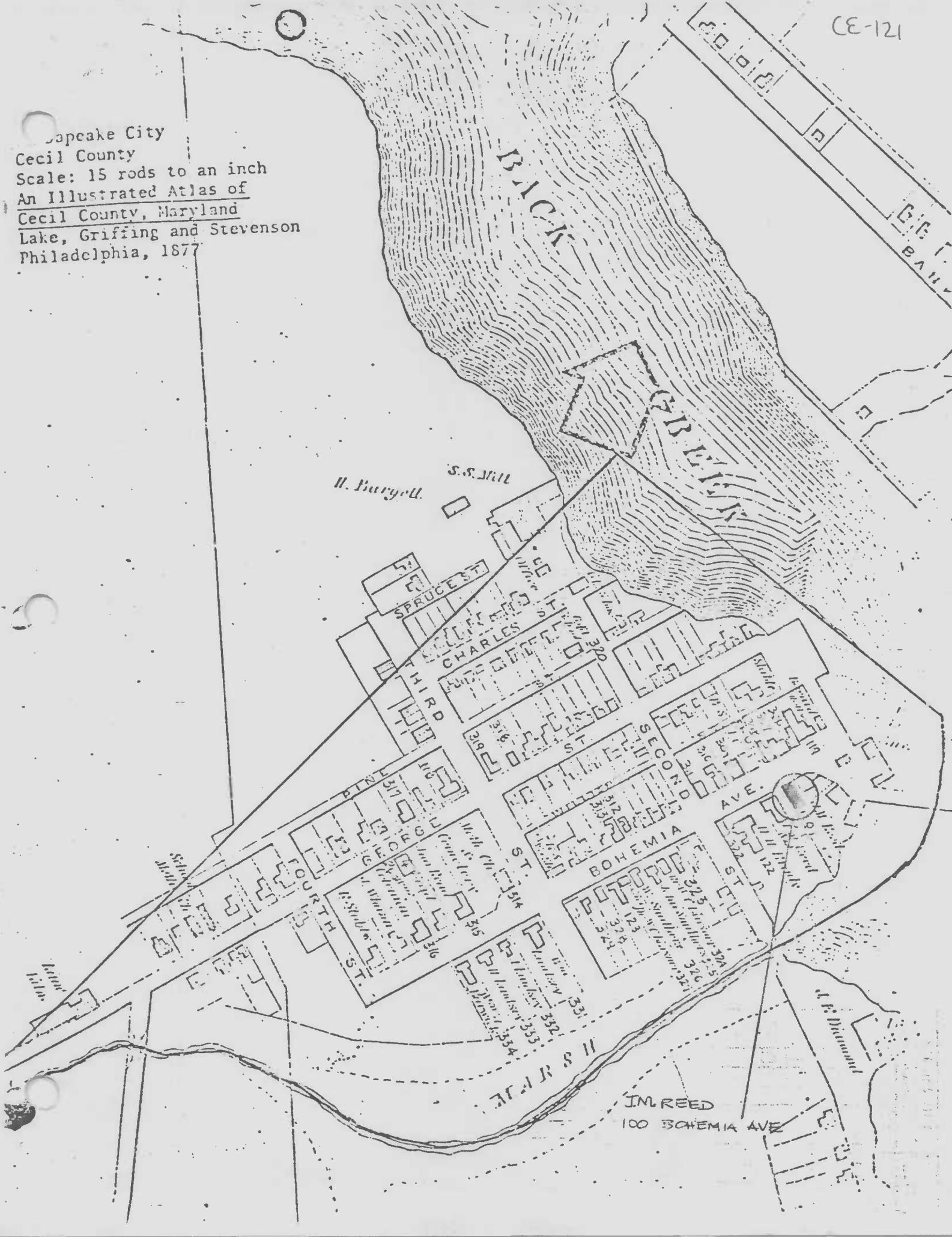
The National Park Service has determined that these project amendments do not meet the Secretary of the Interior's "Standards for Rehabilitation."

Date

National Park Service Authorized Signature

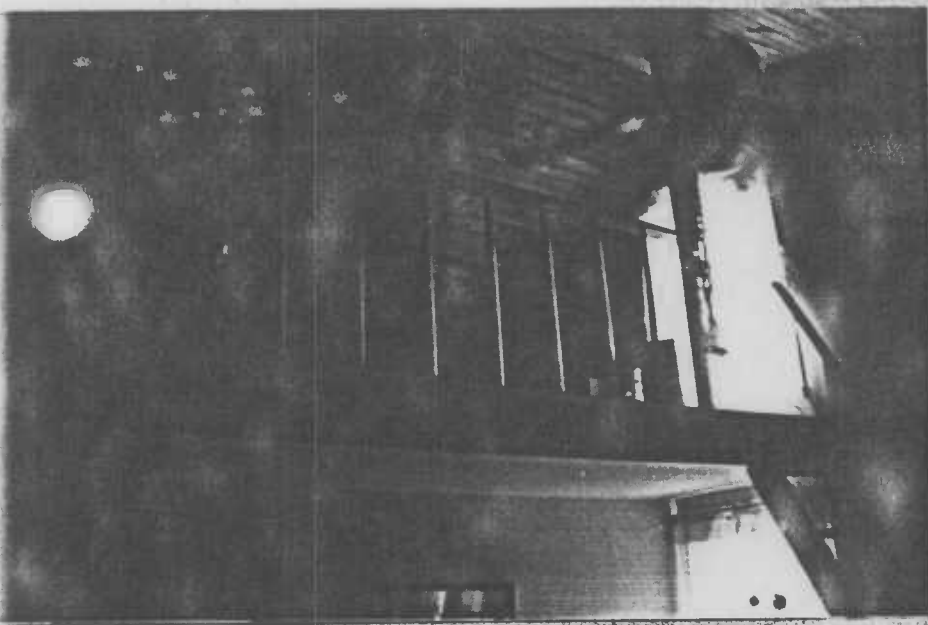
National Park Service Office

Capeake City
Cecil County
Scale: 15 rods to an inch
An Illustrated Atlas of
Cecil County, Maryland
Lake, Griffing and Stevenson
Philadelphia, 1877





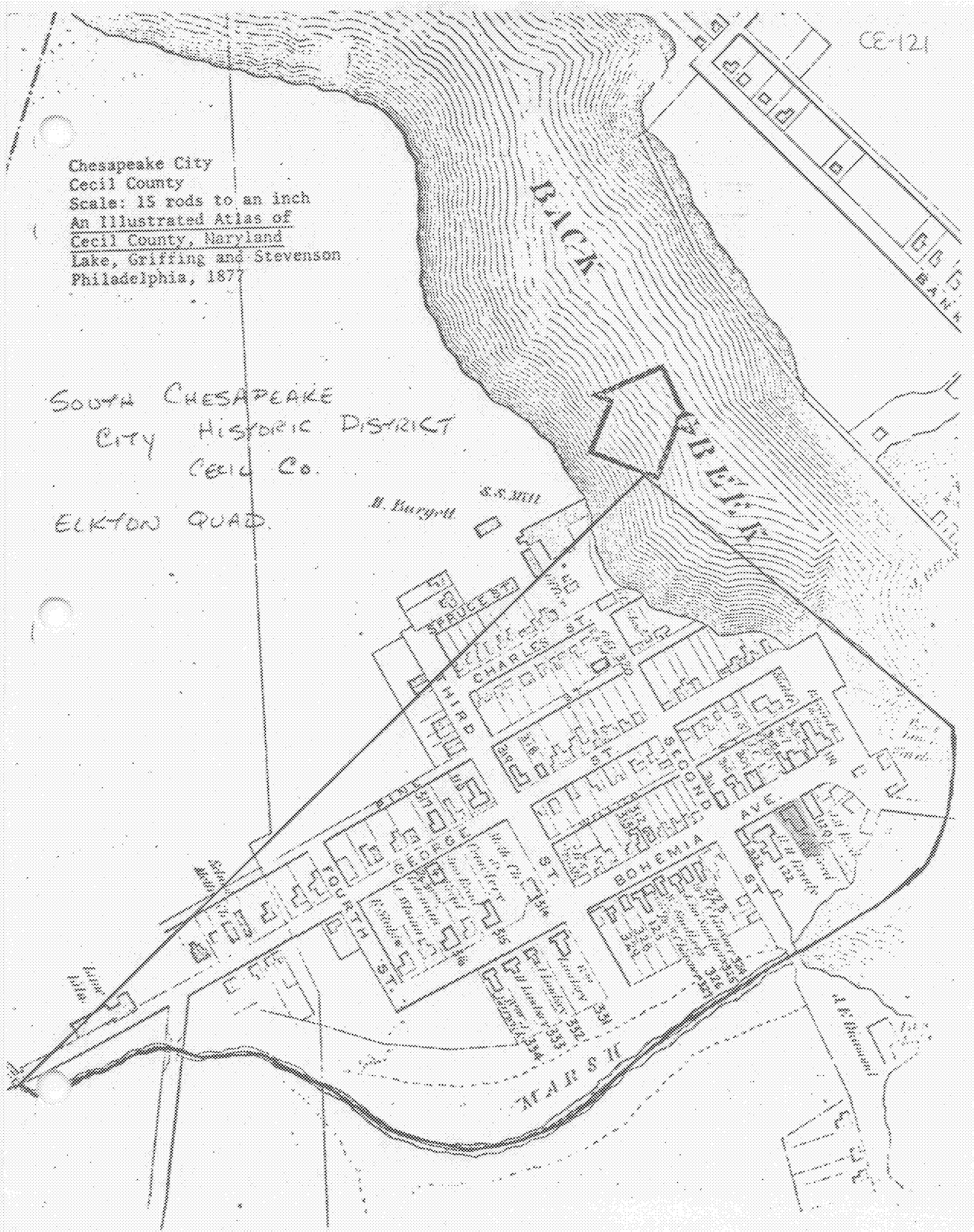
CE-121



Chesapeake City
 Cecil County
 Scale: 15 rods to an inch
 An Illustrated Atlas of
 Cecil County, Maryland
 Lake, Griffing and Stevenson
 Philadelphia, 1877

SOUTH CHESAPEAKE
 CITY HISTORIC DISTRICT
 CEIL CO.

ELKTON QUAD.





J.M. Read Store CE-121

M. Bourne April 1976

West facade



CE-121 Reed Store, S. Ches. City PJB 2/18/95



VF

CE. 121

J. M. Reed Store

7/73

JS